



FERTILIZERS & SOIL AMENDMENTS

Vashon-Maury Island Purchasing Guide

Low Environmental Impact Fertilizer & Soil Amendments

Black Gold Compost	Down to Earth Natural Compost
Carpinito Farms Organic Compost	Peace of Mind Organic Fertilizer
Cedar Grove Booster Blend	Ringer All Natural Lawn Restore
Cedar Grove Compost	Whitney Farms Organic Fertilizer
Down to Earth Multi-Use Organic Fertilizer	Wiggle Worm Soil Builder Organic Fertilizer

Medium Environmental Impact Fertilizer & Soil Amendments

Lilly-Miller Rhododendron and Evergreen Food	Scott's Lawn Pro Super Turf Builder
Lilly-Miller Rose and Flower Food	Scott's Starter Fertilizer
Lilly-Miller Super Rich	Scott's Super Turf Builder with Iron
Scott's Lawn Fertilizer	Scott's Turf Builder



Many people want to purchase fertilizers and soil amendments which have little or no known negative environmental and health impact. This guide can help you make those choices. It is comprehensive, but due to size,

we have had to limit the number of products. There are some products on the Island for which we found no information. We are fortunate that Island garden retailers want to help protect our water resources so be sure to **BUY LOCAL!**



We listed products based on:

Discussions with Island retailers and an inventory of products they expected to have available in Spring 2007;

Discussions with Dr. Philip Dickey, staff scientist at Washington Toxics Coalition (WTC) and Dr. Jack Barbash,

environmental chemist with expertise on groundwater contamination issues;

Information in the WTC publication “grow smart, grow safe” in which Dr. Dickey reviewed environmental impacts of active ingredients in lawn and garden products;

A review of the Institute of Environmental Research and Education’s (IERE) compilation of the Washington State Department of Agriculture listing of heavy metals in fertilizer available on Vashon-Maury Island.

Before using fertilizer or soil amendments:

Is your plant growing in the right place? See “Choosing the Right Plants for a Trouble-Free Garden:”

http://www.ci.seattle.wa.us/util/stellent/groups/public/@spu/@csb/documents/webcontent/choosingt_200311261701525.pdf

Could your soil benefit from adding compost? Check out “Composting Yard and Food Waste at Home:”

http://www.seattle.gov/util/stellent/groups/public/@spu/@csb/documents/webcontent/spu01_001989.pdf

Is your plant a variety that tends to thrive in our climate? Check out this web site:

<http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/yard/troublefree.cfm>

And/or the Plant List at:

<http://www.savingwater.org/docs/PlantList.pdf>

For more information on these compounds in the environment, visit:

for pesticides <http://ca.water.usgs.gov/pnsp>

for fertilizers <http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/nutrients>

For information on how to dispose of pesticides, try:

<http://www.govlink.org/hazwaste/house/disposal/AnyProduct.cfm?catID=930>

Read the instructions for all products and use them with care; apply in the correct season and in the right quantities to help protect our water and wildlife.